



Community
Presbyterian
Church
OF CLARENDON HILLS



Fra Angelico, "Virgin of the Annunciation," 15th century

Service for the Lord's Day

3rd Sunday of Advent

December 17, 2017

9:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Prelude

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

HYFRYDOL

The CPC Advent Orchestra

(Please use the prelude to make the transition from getting here to being here.
Open yourself to the Spirit of God moving in our midst.)

Words of Welcome

Rev. Lauren Cochran / Rev. Beth Freese Dammers

*Sung Call to Worship 88 (v. 7)

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL

*Opening Sentences (inspired by Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11)

Ann Lorenz / Stephanie Rens-Domiano

One: We come to worship Christ...

All: **Who proclaims good news to the poor, binds up the broken-hearted, frees the prisoner and comforts those who mourn.**

One: We come to worship Christ...

All: **Who bestows a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair.**

One: We come to worship Christ...

All: **Who rebuilds destroyed cities, loves justice and ensures justice.**

One: We come to worship Christ...

All: **Who fills our hearts with joy. Rejoice in the Lord!**

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Joanna, Todd, Abby & Andrew Petersen (9:00)

Suzanne & Jim Wear, Rebecca, Sam & Cate Robinson (10:30)

One: Each day, each week we move closer to the coming of Emmanuel, God with us.

One: We are watching, preparing and keeping our hearts open to say YES to God's purpose for our lives.

One: (light three purple candles)

One: Let us pray: Holy God, inspire us to joyfully welcome the astounding news that you need us to participate in your coming to earth. Bless us with the confidence of Mary and the assurance that with you all things are possible. Amen.

Sung Response Hymn 89

For You, O Lord, My Soul in Stillness Waits
(All sing refrain, v. 3, refrain)

MY SOUL IN STILLNESS WAITS

A Time for our Youngest Disciples (9:00)

Lauren

(During the singing of the following hymn, children First Grade and younger may go to their Sunday School room with their teachers.)

*Hymn 744

Arise, Your Light Is Come!

FESTAL SONG

Call to Confession

Ann / Stephanie

Old habits and new wrongs wear ruts through our lives and relationships. But God is able to restore us. Like water coursing through a desert, the waters of baptism flow through us, reminding us that we belong to God and are raised to new life.

Prayer of Confession

God our Maker, we confess that we are not ready to meet you. You send your Holy Spirit to release us, yet we remain captivated by sin. You stand among us in Christ Jesus, yet we claim we do not know you. You call us to feed the poor, be advocates for those stripped of voice, and to care for the wise and sage among us. We say, we are too busy. (A time for silent confession.) And together we pray... Forgive us, God of grace. Help us to be more like Mary: delighted at the sight of angels, trusting of their message and humbled to be called to serve you. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

One: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

All: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Halleluiah. Amen.**

*Sung Response to Pardon 583

Glory to God

GLORIA (TAIZÉ)

*Sharing the Peace of Christ

One: As a sign of our reconciliation with God and one another, let us share the peace of Christ.

The Peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

(Let us exchange the peace of Christ with our neighbors.)

Anthem

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
The CPC Advent Orchestra

VENI EMMANUEL

Prayer for Inspiration

Beth

Scripture Reading Luke 1:46b-55 (N.T. p. 53)

One: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word! This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

Mary's Song

Rev. Beth Freese Dammers

***Affirmation of Faith** (written by Ann Siddall)

**Our souls magnify the Lord,
and our spirits rejoice in God our Saviour,
for he looks with favor upon us
and sees our unrealized potential.**

**In the tradition of Mary,
and all who have said "yes" to God,
we stand here today,
to add our assent to theirs.**

**Like Mary, we feel overwhelmed;
we wonder if we are worthy,
or capable, of following the calling.
Like Mary, we have our questions
and we will not be afraid to ask them.
Like Mary, we will hear and ponder
the assurance that God will empower us.
Like Mary we will strive to say -
"Let it be with us according to your will."**

**To whatever God is inviting us
at this time in our lives,
and relying on God's grace,
we say "yes."**

***Commissioning of Young Disciples** (9:00)

One: You have heard the Word proclaimed.

Now, may you go forth, ready to grow in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

All: **Amen.**

Children in **grades 2 – 3** may meet their Sunday School teachers at the **front** of the sanctuary.

Young people in **grades 4 – 8** may meet their teachers at the **back** of the sanctuary.

***Hymn 101**

No Wind at the Window

COLUMCILLE

The Offering

Call to Offering

Ann / Stephanie

Offertory

Savior of the Nations, Come

J. S. Bach

***Doxology**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Christ all people here below,
Praise Holy Spirit evermore,
Praise Triune God whom we adore, Amen.*

***Prayer of Dedication**

Church Tidings

Lauren / Beth

Sharing of Joys & Concerns

Prayers of the People (O Lord hear our prayer; **We lift our prayer to God.**)

The Lord's Prayer (using "sins")

*Hymn 100

My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN

*Charge and Benediction

*Sung Response to Benediction 600

Amen

AMEN

Postlude

Go, Tell it on the Mountain
The CPC Advent Orchestra

AFRICAN-AMERICAN SPIRITUAL

**Those who are able, please stand.*

Liturgists:

Ann Lorenz (9:00)

Stephanie Rens-Domiano (10:30)

Advent Orchestra directed by Gregg Sewell

Guest Organist: Mark Reynertson

USHERING THIS MORNING: Walter Florence, Kevin Manning, Karen White, Katherine White (9:00)
Joanne King, Pete Hanlon (10:30)

HOSPITALITY / COFFEE FELLOWSHIP: Susie Jones & Linda Lindon

Please join the Deacons for coffee and home-made cookies in Fellowship Hall between services.

OUR PASTORS WELCOME ALL CHILDREN

in worship — the squiggly, the sleeping, the giggling and the goldfish snacks

THANK YOU

to all who participated in our Advent Orchestra this morning and helped us celebrate the season in worship.

A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

will be held Sunday, December 24, immediately following the 9:00 a.m. worship service for the purpose of electing officers to the Class of 2020.

Please join us Sunday, December 24



9:00 a.m. Fourth Sunday of Advent Worship
One morning worship service with Communion
Rev. Beth Freese Dammers will be preaching on Luke 2:1-14
In the Most Peculiar Places

Nursery care and Sunday School through 1st Grade
(No Sunday School for Grades 2-8)

Christmas Eve Services:

3:30 p.m. Family Worship Service
Christmas story for younger children and their families

7:00 p.m. Family Worship & Communion Service
Christmas story for older children and their families
The LOGOS Choir sings
Nursery care available

9:00 p.m. Candlelight Worship, Lessons and Carols
Chancel Choir and trumpet
Nursery care available

11:00 p.m. Candlelight Worship & Communion, Lessons and Carols
Chancel Choir and trumpet

Adults and children of any age are welcome at all services.

Sunday, December 31, one worship service at 10:30 a.m.
Nursery care available

LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE

CPC and the Stephen Ministers are offering a special service on the longest night of the year, **Wednesday, December 20 at 7:00 p.m.** This is a service for those who are suffering in any way during the holiday season (grief, depression, loneliness, family trouble, etc.). If you know someone who would benefit from a service like this, invite them to come with you. If you have more questions about this service, talk to one of the pastors.

THE CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

will be received today. This special offering is shared equally by the assistance program of the Presbyterian Church's Board of Pensions for pastors and missionary families who have devoted their lives to doing Christ's work among those of lesser means. Envelopes are available in the pews.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

We would like to thank the following people for their generous donation of poinsettias to decorate our sanctuary:



*Paul and Elizabeth Abraham in memory of Yohan Abraham
Karna Bouton in memory of Lois and Dick Bull
Bev Briggs in memory of Richard Briggs
Flewelling & Rigazio family in memory of Frank W. Flewelling, Jr.
Cyndi Frost in memory of Bruce Frost
Donna and Glenn Gabanski in memory of their parents
Fred and Ann Hamman in memory of Henry Hamman
Nancy and George Hamouz to the glory of God
Dick and Jane Heil in memory of Jean Guthrie
Evelyn Kapicka in memory of Robert B. Kapicka and Kathy Ford
Charlotte Krueger in memory of Charles, Jr, Charles III and Virginia Dunbar
Missy and Dave LaBrash in memory of their loved ones
Joe and Milly Lebeda in memory of their loved ones
Linda and Jim Lindon in memory of loved family members
Katie McGowan in memory of Rick McGowan and Harry Hillman
Liz and Ken Monson to the glory of God
Ken and Gwen Nakutis in honor of Matilda and Marsy
Bob Parsons to the glory of God
The Schnieders Family in memory of Ray Kelly
Geoffrey M. Silver in memory of Renée Silver
Dana Slaby in memory of her father, Col. Tom Nettling
Cathy Stahr in memory of Jane Clarke Whittington
Lindy and John Steeves in honor of Brady & Brynn Howes and Lily & Anna Van De Wege
and in memory of Bud & Rita Steeves and Jane & Glen Hallquist
Adam and Dharati Szymanski in memory of Usha Mahisekar, Lily Szymanski, Vasant Pandav,
James Kozeluh and Meaghan, Ashley, and Gail Henson
Matt and Hadley Vold in honor of Cyndi Frost and her service at CPC
Tom Wearne in memory of Margaret & Robert Wearne
Derek, Ruth and Sarah White in honor of Cyndi Frost and Deb Helms
and in memory of Alvin & Nina Ohrenberg and Harold and Lois White
Wendy and John Wilhelm in memory of their parents, Vi & Roy Wilhelm
Alyssa Woody in honor of the amazing Child Care Center teachers*

This week at CPC:

Today, Sunday, December 17
Orchestra Sunday

Worship 9:00 & 10:30 a.m.

9:00 a.m. — Sunday School Nursery–8th

9:00 a.m. — *The Present Word* Parlor

10:30 a.m. — K-1st Grade Worship

10:30 a.m. — *Tracing Our Faith* Parlor

11:30 a.m. — Finance Committee Chapel

2:30 p.m. — WF Christmas Caroling

5:00 p.m. — Disciple & Post-Disciples
Cubes

Monday, December 18

10:00 a.m. — 3-year-old Preschool
program Fellowship Hall

6:30 p.m. — Pre-K Preschool program
Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall

7:00 p.m. — Membership Committee
Chapel

Tuesday, December 19

7:00 a.m. — Men's Discussion Group

1:30 p.m. — Staff Meeting Chapel

7:00 p.m. — Endowment Committee
Parlor

Wednesday, December 20

1:00 p.m. — Courage to Change Rm. 6/8

7:00 p.m. — **Longest Night Worship**
Sanctuary

7:30 p.m. — Chancel Choir

Thursday, December 21

9:00 a.m. — Mission Sewing Rm. 8

11:00 a.m. — Krause Memorial Service
followed by luncheon reception

7:00 p.m. — Clarion Bells

Friday, December 22

Church office closes at 12 noon

Saturday, December 23

7:00 p.m. — PADS

Sunday, December 24

**9:00 a.m. — 4th Sunday of Advent
Worship & Communion**

10:00 a.m. — Congregational Meeting

Christmas Eve Worship:

3:30 p.m. — Family Worship

**7:00 p.m. — Family Worship &
Communion**

9:00 p.m. — Candlelight Worship

**11:00 p.m. — Candlelight Worship &
Communion**

Children & Youth

SUNDAY SCHOOL (Nursery — 8th grade)

Children Nursery through 1st Grade should meet in their classrooms at 9:00 a.m. 2nd-8th graders join with their families at 9:00 a.m. worship and will be sent forth with their teachers to Sunday School after communion. Classes dismiss at 10:15. **Please see Cyndi Frost, Director of Children's Ministries.**

KINDERGARTEN-1ST GRADE WORSHIP/CHERUB CHOIR

will meet today at 10:30 a.m. in Room 109. Led by Cyndi Frost and Lisa Harmet, the K-1st Grade Worship program uses a sensory style of storytelling, so God is experienced, not just learned about. Our hope is that this will help children make a meaningful transition into worship with the congregation.

LOGOS

will not meet during Christmas break and will resume on **January 10** for "Mamma Mia (Italian Feast) Night." **Pre-registration is required.** Contact Cyndi Frost for more information: cyndi.frost@chcpc.org

DISCIPLE & POST-DISCIPLE CUBES

will meet this evening at 5:00 p.m. Westminster Fellowship will meet at 2:30 p.m. to sing Christmas carols at a nursing home.

Adult Education

THE PRESENT WORD

meets on Sunday at 9:00 a.m. in the parlor. For information, contact Walt King: wwkingo6@gmail.com.

TRACING OUR FAITH

will resume on Sunday, January 7, at 10:30 a.m. in the parlor. For more info, contact Ron Eshleman: reshleman@vi-institute.org.

THE MEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP

meets on Tuesday at 7:00 a.m. in the Parlor. All men from the church are invited for a "Bring Your Own Coffee" setting for discussion and fellowship. They are reading *Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World* by the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu. Contact Bob Parsons, 708-588-1753.

THURSDAY MORNING DEVOTIONS

meets on Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. in the Chapel, resuming on January 11. They are reading *Accidental Saints* by Nadia Bolz-Weber. Contact Pastor Lauren for information.

THE CHURCH OFFICE will have limited office hours for the holiday.

Monday and Tuesday, December 25 and 26: closed

Wednesday through Friday, December 27 – 29: open 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Monday, January 1, 2018: closed

YEAR-END GIVING

As we approach the end of the year, please consider additional financial gifts to the church. Whether you are completing your pledge for 2017 or providing a gift to honor the season, all gifts are important and will help us end the year with a balanced budget.

To ensure your donations are credited to your 2017 giving:

- please mail donations with a postmark no later than Dec. 31, 2017
- or give on-line by Dec. 31, 2017
- or bring donations to the church office **no later than 11:00 a.m. on Friday, December 29, 2017.** (Please note the limited church office hours listed above)

In this holy and joy-filled season, you are invited to a deeper life with God through the worship and programs at Community Presbyterian Church.



For more information about our programs,
please visit our website at
www.chcpc.org
or follow us on Facebook!

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The Ministers: All the Members

Beth Freese Dammers
Lauren Cochran
Cyndi Frost
Deb Helms
Gregg Sewell
Kevin Chunko
Paula Cyphers
Kris Veenbaas
Charlie Justema
Laurie Scola
Nathan Schulz
Cathy Stahr
Stephen Ministers

Pastor
Associate Pastor
Director of Children's Ministries
Director of Youth Ministries
Director of Music Ministries/Choirs
Organist / Accompanist
Co-Director of Older Adult Ministries
Co-Director of Older Adult Ministries
Custodian
Financial Administrator
Inquirer under care
Church Administrator

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